

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **PAM Receives Gift from Dana Mitchell Estate**

**August 26, 2022 (Louisville, KY)** The [Presbyterian Association of Musicians](#) received more than \$360,000 from the estate of Dana Mitchell. Mitchell was the Worship and Music Conference Administrator for 28 years. The gift will be designated to establish two funds: one to support one or more conference faculty members to address the needs of small church musicians, and the other to provide registration scholarships and partial lodging and meal scholarships for participants from small congregations.

Mitchell passed away on February 21, 2021. In June of that year, PAM dedicated the [2021 Worship & Music Conference to her memory](#).

Prior to her death, Mitchell had a deep, personal desire to include small churches in PAM-sponsored national and regional events. She was working to set up a gift to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign that would provide scholarships for the worship leaders and musicians of small churches.



*Dana Mitchell*

Mitchell requested that her gift to PAM be designated to establish two funds:

1. The **Robert E. Stigall Fund** to support one or more faculty member positions at the Worship and Music Conference to address the needs of small church worship leaders and musicians.
2. The **Ann H. Stigall Adult Scholarship Fund** to provide scholarships for conference registration and two-thirds of lodging and meals to adults from small churches attending the Worship and Music Conference.

The generous gift allows PAM to invest the donation for permanent retainment and use the annual earnings from the investment to support the faculty position(s) and fund adult scholarships.

Kelly Abraham, PAM Executive Director said, “As Dana served on PAM’s Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary campaign committee, it is fitting that her generous gift fulfills multiple goals of the campaign which include annual stipends for multiple conference faculty persons and scholarships to provide housing and registration scholarships, resulting in a goal to slow increases in participant registration fees.” Her gift creates an immediate impact on the organization and its members by providing opportunities for multiple adults from small churches to participate annually in the Worship & Music Conference.

Mitchell spent countless years in service to PAM as the Worship and Music Conference Administrator, and the ripples from the lives she influenced as a result reach far and wide. Current PAM President and 2014 Conference Director Mark Kemp remembers her as “supporting, encouraging, and constantly drawing out the best from each person she had the opportunity to know and love during those summer days. Her gift continues to encourage every member of PAM and brings out the best we have to offer in service to our God.”

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### ***About the Presbyterian Association of Musicians***

*The Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) is a national organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) for people who are involved in the areas of worship, music, and the arts. Choir directors, organists, Christian educators, clergy, worship musicians, and lay people will find PAM to be a valuable resource for creative worship planning. PAM, a 501(c)(3) organization, is not just for Presbyterians. Other denominations find PAM's resources, conferences, and publications helpful in their service to God.*

*PAM Membership is open to everyone and is designed to assist worship and music leaders in worship planning, enrichment, employment, attending conferences, networking, engagement, and education. Membership in 2021 included over 1,200 individuals and over 1,000 churches across the country were served. The annual Worship and Music Conference saw 1,245 in person conferees and 113 online conferees at the 2022 conference.*

*PAM believes that formative and collaborative experiences with God and neighbor nurture relationship and create community.*

[www.presbymusic.org](http://www.presbymusic.org)

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